FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 1898.

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Paum-Elosque No. 12, near Grand Hotel,

sque No. 10, Boulevard des Capucines. If our friends who favor us with mone ion with to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

There is really no longer a Philippin question. It is settled.

The surrender of the Spanish commander to General MERRITT included everything belonging to Spain in that archipelago. The capitulation was absolute, comprehensive, and without stipulation as to territorial limits. Dawey and MERRITT now hold, under the American flag, not merely Cavité and Manila and Manila Bay, not merely the tsland of Luzon, but the Philippines.

There are from twelve hundred to two thousand of them, big and little. Geo graphical authorities differ as to the exact number, and the Spanish never had much genius for mathematics. We can send out a census expert by and by, with a notebook and a lead pencil, to make a correct enumeration.

But, big and little, they are American to day, to the last islet. Such is the central fact resulting from the

glorious operations of George Dewey and WESLEY MERRITT on Saturday last.

It simplifies exceedingly the task before the Peace Commissioners. We negotiate with the American flag flying over the entire group; not with a single seaport in our possession and the rest of the territory debatable. Our Commissioners have only to insist on retaining what the American army and navy have wrested from Spanish dominion. Public opinion in this country will not tolerate the idea of the surrender of a single island, or forgive the statesmen responsible for such a surrender.

Baracca and Sagua de Tanamo

The worthy Governor of Guam and his garrison who hadn't heard that there was war between their country and ours until Capt. GLASS, in the Charleston, demanded their surrender, were not the only Spanfards behind the times. Gen. SHAFTER, in reporting Major MILEY's visit to Baracoa and Sagua de Tanamo, on the north coast of Cuba, where he received the surrender of 1.755 officers and men, says that these troops knew nothing whatever of the destruction of CERVERA's fleet or the fall of Santiago, to say nothing of later events of some importance. Sagua de Tanamo is less than sixty miles in an air line from Santiago, and Baracoa about ninety.

Such an experience throws a flood of light on the futility of Spain's military operations in the island during the last three years. Can we conceive of any other country with such a lack of communications and such indifference to them? CERVERA'S squadron was destroyed on July 3, and here were two warrisons in the same province, nearly 1,800 strong, that had heard nothing of it all this time, although they had officially posted a bulletin of DEWEY's alleged defeat at Manila. Perhaps a large part of Spain's 200,000 soldiers in Cuba were scattered at posts that not only gave each other no support, but had no idea of what military open ations were going on. They drew their rations, when they could get them, and

repressed undue curiosity. The queerest fact is found in Gen. SHAF-THE's statement that both at Baracos and at Sagua de Tanamo a regiment of insurgents was found "camped within a few hundred yards of Spanish troops," the two "calmly observing each other." Since they supposed the war was still going on, is there anything quite like this, outside of opera bouffe?

Remaking the Map of the World.

The report that the southern part of Arabia has been declared a British protectorate has been denied, but is probably only premature. For all practical purposes the whole of the coast line from Aden to the boundary between the semi-independent Sultanate of Oman and Mesopotamia is under British control, and all the islands of any importance are claimed as British territory. The principal ones are the Khuria Muria Islands, about half way between Aden and Muscat off the coast of Oman. and the Bahr-el-Benat Islands, inside the Persian Gulf, southeast of the Katar Peninsula. In 1896 the British Resident at Bushire, on the Persian coast, who exercises a general supervision of political affairs in the Persian Gulf, proclaimed a protectorate over the Katar Peninsula, which holds a commanding strategic position near the centre of the gulf, on the Oman coast. Owing, however, to diplomatic representations by the Turkish Government and others, the action of the Resident at Bushire was not confirmed by the British Government, and the contemplated protectorate lapsed. None the less, however, is the British influence predominant in that part of southwestern Asia, and a section of the British Indian squadron is especially set apart for the service of the Persian Gulf and the patrolling of the southern coast of Arabia.

The Sultan of Oman, SEYYID FEYSAL BIN TURKER, although nominally independent, is really in the same position as the Sultan of Zanzibar before the British occupation and annexation. The foreign trade of his capital. Muscat, and country is done almost entirely with British India and East Africa. and by British subjects, and his external politics are inspired by the British Foreign Office. In all respects he is a protected sovereign in the diplomatic sense. But besides his territory on the Arabian mainland, the Sultan of Oman is the recognized sovereign of a small, but by no means unimportant, patch of territory on the opposite coast of the Arabian Ses, close to the eastern side of the frontier between Persia and the Khanate of Khelat, near where the recent troubles between the natives and a British exploring party took place. Gwadar, as this territory is called, is important

y reason of its being one of the principal stations of the Indo-European land telegraph line that runs through Persia and southern Russia, and of the various submarine cables in the Indian Ocean that connect with the Turkish system at Fao, at the mouth of the Euphrates, via Bushire. So long as peace endures in that part of the s present political conditions are not likely to be interfered with; but on the first sign of war it is quite certain that the they confer upon a single citism, can be an-British Government would be compelled for military and political reasons to make an effective and permanent occupation of many points of the South Arabian coast. With regard to the territory to the north-

west of Aden, it is still occupied effectively by the Turks, although the population has been for years in a more or less active state of revolt, owing to the exactions and oppression of the Turkish governors; and from all accounts it would be very well satisfied to pass under an infidel protectorate if left to manage its own internal affairs, if by doing so it could escape from the Turkish rule, which it detests.

Consolidation and Tax Rate

The tax rate for so much of the present city of New York as is included within the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx-the New York of a year ago-has been fixed practically at 2.01 for each \$100 of asessed valuation. Next week, in accordance with the law, it will be ratified officially, and under it, when the collection of taxes begins, the total sum collected will exceed \$50,000,000. Although the rate this year in the territory of the former city of New York is slightly less than it was a year ago, this result is due not to the diminution of expenses or the increased public revenues—except from excise taxes—but from an increase in the appraised value of real and personal property. The running expenses of the city-Manhattan and Bronx part-are substantially the same, almost identically the same, as they were last year. If the city's contribution to State expenses, the city's annual interest charge and the sums necessarily appropriated for the redemption of the city debt be deducted (as properly they should be in any comparison of the city's current expenses) this is how those of 1897, the year preceding consolidation, and of 1898, the year following it, compare: 1897......\$84,208,259,0

84,759,880,84 When the appropriations of city expenses for 1899 are complete it will be seen, from all indications, that extending the boundaries of New York has not caused any of the evils which its opponents predicted, or resulted in noticeable benefit. The facts of the case, as they are disclosed by the tax rate as it is about to be adopted, are that in the expense of administering its affairs the enlargement of New York has made, and is likely to make, little material difference. In the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx, at least, there does not seem likely to be any change, and the appropriations asked for the departments in what was formerly the city of Brooklyn show that the expenses of these will be substantially the same as in previous years. It is true that the number of Commissioners has been decreased by consolidation, but the salaries of Commissioners retained have been raised generally so that, after all, it may be said that the running expenses of New York city bor

The Boss of a British Colony.

oughs are pretty much as before

The fact has been for some time vaguely known that a capitalist named REID has recently acquired from the colonial Executive and Legislature of Newfoundland rights so extensive that they make him one of the greatest land owners in the world, and also assure to him extraordinary political influence. The details of the transaction, by virtue of which a private individual seems likely to become the virtual dictator of an island nearly equal in area to the State of New York, have been lately communicated to the London Daily News by Sir JAMES WINTER, the Premier of the colony.

Newfoundland, discovered by JOHN CA-BOT in 1497, and, consequently, the most ancient of England's colonial possessions, contains about 42,000 square miles, or upward of 25,000,000 acres. Three-twentieths of this superficies, or 3,750,000 acres, have been conveyed in fee simple to the individual whom the islanders designate as Czar REID. Enormous as is the tract of land thus alienated, Sir JAMES WINTER defends the transaction and maintains that the colony will profit by it. He points out that the part of the Newfoundland railway system which was operated by the colonial Government has been hitherto worked at an annual loss of some \$175,000. A proposal to relieve the Treasury from this burden was made by Mr. REID five years ago. He then undertook to run the railway on his own account in return for a grant of 2,500,000 acres of land, half thereof to be situated on one side of the road and half on the other. The colonial Government accepted the suggested arrangement, with the stipulation that Mr. REID'S lands should be taken in alternate sections. By reserving to itself the other

benefit from the expected appreciation in land values. Such was the situation at the end of 1893: in 1897 Mr. REID further offered to work at his own cost, for fifty years, that part of the Newfoundland railway system which had been in the hands of an American company, then bankrupt. For this additional service, his land grant was to be increased by 1,250,000 acres, making the total, as we have said, 3,750,000. Subsequently, for a million dollars in cash, Mr. REID bought the right to purchase the reversion of the

last-mentioned line at the end of the fifty

sections, the colony would reap half of the

years during which he was to run it. It is not only as a railway king that this capitalist figures in Newfoundland. Sir JAMES WINTER says that Mr. REID has also taken over the dry dock of St. John's and part of the telegraph system of the island. The dry dock at St. John's, it seems, was built by the colonial Government in 1882-83, at a cost of \$600,000; desiring to place his railway terminus at a point most convenient for transhipment, Mr. REID proposed to buy the dock. and the Government, which had hitherto obtained less than 2 per cent. on its investment, sold it to him for \$325,000. At that time the Government telegraph lines were worked at an annual loss of from fifteen to twenty thousand dollars, and Mr. REID again came to the rescue of the colonial authorities. He agreed that if the Government would give him a subsidy of \$10,000 per annum he would work the lines for seven years at his own cost, and that at the end of the septennial period he would work them for forty-three years without any subsidy at all, further covenanting to

reduce the rates by 50 per cent. What the

telegraph plant had cost the Government

is not stated, but Mr. REID acquired it for

\$125,000. In a word, according to Sir

JAMES WINTER, the colonial Government

questionable as may be the power which

has been relieved, by its bargain with Mr. REID, of an annual loss approaching \$200. 000, and can look forward to a large expansion of its financial resources through the rise in value of the reserved alternate sections adjoining the railway lines. It is hard to see how these transactions.

minion of Canada, but still remains an iso lated British colony, dependent directly on the Crown. A Constitution and representative Government were granted to the island in 1822, and "responsible government" was conceded in 1855. Of the two legislative chambers, one, the House of Assembly, is elected, while the members of the other, the Legislative Council, are nominated by the Governor in council. A meas ure which has been passed by both branches of the Legislature, and approved by the Governor, becomes the law of the land; such is the status of the grants and contracts acquired by Mr. REID. It remains to be seen whether he has capital enough to fulfil his obligations, and to carry out the proposed extensions of the railways.

nulled. The right of the colonial Govern

has no political connection with the Do

The fact will be recalled that Newfou

ent to enter into them seems indisputable

In 1880 the colonial Executive was authorized by the Legislature to raise a loan of \$5,000,000, for the purpose of constructing a railway from St. John's to Hall's Bay, the centre of the mining region, with branches to Brigus, Harbour Grace and Carbonear, the whole length to be 340 miles. This railway, when completed, will traverse the great valleys of the Gander and Exploits rivers, and will afford access to the finest agricultural and timber lands. In 1882 a charter was granted to "The Great American and European Short Line Railway Company" to construct another line to run from Cape Ray, at the extreme southwestern angle of the island, to a point on the eastern coast distant from Valentia, Ireland, only about 1,600 miles. The company's intention was to shorten the route between Newfoundland and America by crossing Newfoundland, between which and Ireland swift steamers were to ply, while a steam ferry would transport passengers between Cape Ray and Cape North on the island of Cape Breton, where the railway system of Canada would be reached. This is one of the charters which have fallen into the hands of Mr. REID, and, if the plans of the original owners should be carried out by him, it is computed that the voyage across the Atlantic might be shortened by about two days.

Facts Instead of Scandal

It is for the interests of the whole military service that there should be such an official investigation into the management of the medical corps at Santiago as Surgeon-General STERNBERG asks for in his request to the Secretary of War for the appointment of a Court of Inquiry.

Ever since our military operations at San tiago were finished accusations of inefficien cy, positive neglect, and utter incapacity have been made against the commanding General, the medical corps, and the supply departments of the army there engaged, as concerns the care and succor of the sick and wounded. They have provoked a controversy which is so unseemly and so injurious that it should be stopped by the discovery and publication of the facts exactly as they were. If there was any failure in duty or incompetency in any arm of the service or in any individual officer the exact seat of the responsibility should be fixed and pointed out, with a view to the application of the needed

remedy in our military system. Surgeon-General STERNBERG, in asking for a court of inquiry, asks that the whole truth be brought to the light in a way by which it can be obtained with entire impartiality. He puts himself in the place of the accused and demands that the reports injurious to his corps shall be in vestigated sharply and thoroughly, with a view to the punishment of all responsibility for the deficiencies charged.

When in due time the whole subject is to receive that most searching of investigations, an inquiry by a military court, every newspaper deserving of respect will reserve its judgment upon the case until after such an investigation has taken place.

Matrimonial Agencies.

The experience of the widow, narrated in THE SUN on Tuesday, who is in much distress because the man who agreed to marry her is now making love to her daughter instead, indicates that matrimonial agencies or brokerage establishments are in full blast in this city.

Indeed, it appears that the widow was registered on the books of the matrimonial agency much as a lot, piece or parcel of real estate might be entered on the register in a broker's office, the record stating that she was 48 years old, good looking and with no incumbrances except the aforesaid daughter. It also mentioned the attractive fact that she was the fortunate possessor of \$500 in cash.

A bidder for the widow and the accom panying cash was secured by the agency, in the shape of a widower twenty-four years her senior. According to the widow, he induced her to lend him four-fifths of her fortune and then hypnotized her daughter.

The point which we desire to emphasize in all this is that these people were brought together by a matrimonial agency-and that agencies of this sort are agencies of evil, which the law ought not to tolerate.

The statutes of this State make it a misdemeanor to throw a crumb of bread to an English sparrow. It is against the law to fish in your own fishpond on the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday. Yet matrimonial brokerage-a business which degrades marriage by appealing to some of the most despicable elements of human nature-appears to be openly practiced without let or hindrance.

We have too many prohibitive enactments on the statute book. Several score of these might well be repealed. Nevertheless, we should like to see a prohibitory tax imposed upon marriage brokers.

To surrender the Philippines means to give the whole idea of American commercial and political expansion a staggering blow squarely between the eyes. It means to sail up America and turn back the dial of human progress a thousand years.—Mexican Herald.

Don't worry, neighbor. It won't be done.

No matter what may have been the purpose of the fathers in constructing it, the Suprems Court of the United States has for half a century been, in every respect, huriful to human liberty.—Pilisburg Kansan.

If questions of constitutional law and interpretation could be settled by means of a Populist referendum, much more remarkable results would be obtained.

Three Cheers and a Day Off from Edison. To the Euror of the Sun-Sir: I close my laboatory and factories here on Saturday, also my works and mills in the vicinity, giving all my workmen a holiday and a chance to cheer for Sampson. Three cheers for Sampson, Dewey, and THE SUR. TROS. A. EDISON.

The Three Great Horticultural States.

From Gardening.
California is the greatest horticultural State in the Union, New York is second and Illinois third. Illinois has \$4,777,000 invested in nurseries.

STATES. A Bussian Observer's View of Their Bels

From the London Daily News Recent events have not tended to improve the relations which exist between England and Russia. There has been much hostile criticism, both written and spoken, of Russia's for eign policy and the methods by which her Gov ernment has pursued it. A representative of the Daily News called upon Dr. Markoff in order o learn how Russians regard this denuncia tion of their country.

"How, then, does Russian opinion regard Mr Chamberiain's latest programme of foreign policy?" "In Russia, Mr. Chamberlain's speeches are generally regarded as a bid for an illiance with Germany. How such an alliance would benefit England we fall to see. Germany s England's greatest commercial competitor and she has colonial ambitions which must in

witably clash with yours."

"Then, from the Russian point of view, an Anglo-German alliance would be regarded as strengthening the German partner without helping his English alley?" "Certainly. That Germany should welcome such an alliance is not surprising. The Triple Alliance is now in a very rusty condition, and will hardly stand any considerable shock. Germany alone exists as great power by her ability to excite quarrels etween England and Russia. If once Russia and England were to come to an understand ing Germany would sink into comparative in significance as a European power. Two intances from recent events supply admirable examples of Germany's power and weakness. After the Germans seized Kiso Chou, in order to transfer European attention from that vioation of the status quo, they set to work to excite English and Russian jealousies. By hint to Russia that unless she occupied Por Arthur England would do so, they succeeded in forcing Russia's hand. The stratagem suc eeded admirably. Ill feeling was roused both in England and Russia, while Germany posed as the friend of both nations. By acting the same part the Kaiser was for a long time able to block all effective action in the Near East. But as soon as Russia and England came to an agreement on the question of the Governorship of Crete, Germany had to capitulate. "There is a growing feeling of irritation in

Russia against Germany. There are numerous langer points in the relations of the two countries. They range across two continents. We were not pleased at Germany's action in precipitating events in China. German policy has persistently but indirectly opposed Russian aims in Turkey. The recent revolt in Russian Central Asia is attributed, if not to the direct at least to the indirect, influence of Germany at Constantinople. Nor do we look with favor upon the Kaiser's visit to the Holy Land. Russia is very sensitive about the holy places. We also do not approve of German activity in Asia Minor generally, and the proposed German railway from Jaffa to the Persian Gulf in particular Russia regards Asia Minor as within her sphere of influence. Then, again, in Austria German influences have been decidedly anti-Slavio. These questions will make it increasingly difficult for Germany to pose as Russia's friend ends. No doubt an alliance or understanding with England would suit Germany admirably but except as a provocation to Russia, it is diffi-"In what light is the growing good will be-

ween England and America regarded in Rus-"Russia and the United States have always been on friendly terms. An under standing between England and the United States might conceivably bring about a better feeling between England and Russia. Stranger things have happened. Russian disapprova of America's action in the present war has been greatly exaggerated. The Novosti does not speak for the Russian Government, which is, in reality, friendly to America. If Spanish statesnen are comforting themselves with the hope that Russia will interfere to save them they will be rudely awakened. The Russian Government has no intention whatever of interfering in the spanish-American war. With regard to the Philippines, Russia would look with equanimity upon their acquisition by the United States Provided they are no longer to remain Spanish. here is no nation we would rather see take them than the United States. That would, at any rate, remove the danger of the Philippines falling into the hands of Japan, Germany, or England. If Germany protests against the ac tion of the United States in the Far East she will not be supported by Russia."

INFIDELITY OR SUPERSTITION? The Rev. Dr. Brann on the Cause of the Downfall of Spain.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your corre spondent "Bationalist," in attacking my statement that "inūdelity among the ruling classes has caused the decadence of Italy, France, and put Spain in her present miserable condition," is mistaken in quoting Germany against me.

yet infidel. The Kaiser is a church member and a stanch champion of Christian schools. He is King of Prussia, the leading German nation, which, although strongly Protestant, supports Catholic schools and pays their teachers from the public treasury.

though strongly Protestant, supports Catholio schools and pays their teachers from the public treasury. One of the causes of Prussia's political success and greatness is due to this very fact.

It is true that rationalists abound in Germany, and equally true that wherever they abound they menace the existence of the empire. The Socialists are all rationalists, and when they become the "ruling classes" Germany will go down like Spain. History shows that political decay always follows the loss of religious belief in the ruling classes.

"Rationalist" is again wrong when he intimates that the cause of Spain's decay is "superstition." Why Spain became great, conquered the Moors, and was the cleating power in Europe when she was the champion of what "Rationalist" is pleased to call "superstition." The strongest element in Spain today, her only hope, is in the "superstitiona" element, in the honest, brave and patrious element, in the honest, brave and patrious element, in the honest, brave and patrious Catholio peasants, who in this very century defeased the French and drove the Bonspartes out of the Spanish Kingdom. It is not the Christian religion but it is the infidel Spanish statesmen and their Cabinets who have ruined Spain, robbed her treasury, and enriched themselves with money that should have been used to educate the common people and defend the country.

If "Rationalist" will read modern Spanish history he will learn all this and be slower to call a statement of historical facts "shallow philosophical deductions."

FIRST A. Brans, D. D.

New York, Aug. 19.

To the Educo of The Sux—Sir: It must be re-

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : It must be re embered by those who applaud Father Brann's de sire to have Christianity taught in the schools that his ideal of Christianity is simply Roman Catholicism, and that we might teach the whole Bible to the children without his being satisfied until we taught also the "Glories of Mary" and the infallibility of the Pope. Respectfully, M. E.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In THE SUN of last Sunday the Rev. Henry A. Brann, D. D., appears to advocate some sort of Governmental recognition of the necessity of Christian education, and also the visdom of appropriations for the support of parochial schools. Dr. Brann shows unwisdom in agitating a subject which is against the good sense of the people. People will not be forced to take what the priests term a Christian education. In this country the Government wisely abstains from interfarence with individual judgment, permitting all to worship as they please. Sophistical reasoning does not delude. We do not want religionists forever meddling with affairs outside their province. Let the political parties alone. The Church, with its record for good deeds, is damaged in the eyes of her children by such agitations as Dr. Brann seems to favor. American Catholics object. A CATROLIC. chial schools. Dr. Brann shows unwisdom in agi

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUE-Sir : Granting tha he condition of France, Italy and Spain is due, as Dr. Brann says, to "infidelity" among the educate lasses, I would like to inquire how this "infidelity classes, I would like to inquire now inits "innerity comes to exist. As the Roman Catholic Church has had a free hand in those countries, in educational matters at least, and such of their people as enjoyed the privilege of going to school received a strictly religious training, will Dr. Brann kindly explain S. Way Youx Aug 17. New York, Aug. 17.

Mistrusts the "Third Degree."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : Regarding the Grand Hotel murder mystery, I think too much stress is laid on the fact that the prisoner makes contradictory statements as to his whereabouts at certain times. There are some of us who, even after a slight indulgence in the cup that cheers (especially after several cocktaile, have but a hazy idea in the morning of where they were the night before, whom they spoke to, or whether they took the 11P. M. boat or the trolley that left at 4 A. M. I don't wish to cast any reflections on the actue police officials. The success that crowned their offorts in the "Susle Martin case" and the wonderful result of the boasted "third degree" as practiced on Willie Erulisch show that they are indefatigable, anyhow. However, if it should turn out that a beliboy or other employee murdered the woman, these perhaps the third degree would get an indefanite vascitor.

Aug. 18, 1898. dictory statements as to his whereabouts at certain

THE NAME WHEN POST OF A PARTY. rify the Natives

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 18 .- The island of Am brym. New Hebrides group, was the scene of a terrifying upheaval last month. The British gunboat Mildura has reported the Scruption of the volcano Lopevi and the destruction wrought by earthquakes and terrific downpours of rain. The inhabitants not only of Ambrym, but of all the New Hebrides group, were panic stricken. The islands shook to foundations and many thought they would sink into the sea. The seismic disturbance was prefaced by a southeast gale which gradually developed into a hurricane were blown down and nearly all the lighters

were blown down and nearly all the lighters on the beach were wrecked by the high surf. Rain fell in torrents.

Buddenly the sky darkened. It graw blacker every moment until about 2 P. M., when it was so dark on Ambrym that people could not see their way about except when the lightning flashed. Natives huddled together in their huts and traders and settlers took to cover. The earth began to tremble, slightly at first but with rapidly increasing pulsations until the timbers of the light frame dwellings creaked, split and parted. The motions were in waves, and then would change to upheavals, as if the earth were being forced upward by steady blows from a terrible force below the surface. Gradually the shocks grew less severe. Volcanic ashes began to fall and fearful noises were heard from the direction of Lopevi. In about ten hours ashes covered the island to a depth of several inches and no sconer had they ceased falling than rain again set in. Seven inches fell in twenty-four hours and for three days it rained at intervals of six hours, and the downpour was like a cloudburst. It was discovered that Lopevi was in eruption, having burst through the crater, after hundreds of years of inactivity. The mountain is 5,000 feet high. Burning lava was streaming down its aldes when the Mildura left for Sydney.

OUR FUTURE COLONIAD POLICY. Conference of Prominent Men in Saratoge to Discuss the Subject.

SABATOGA, Aug. 18.-It is expected that more than five hundred prominent men, represent-ing all parts of the United States, will attend the opening session of the national conference on the future foreign policy of the United States -morrow morning. Among those who will be heard are Carl Schurz of New York, Judge P. 3. Grosseup of Chicago, Patrick A. Collins of Boston, W. H. Wilson of Philadelphia, Warner Miller of New York, Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, Albert Shaw of William W. Howe of New Orleans, Willis J. Abbot of New York, Congressman Frederick H. Gillett of Springfield, Moorfield Storey of Boston, H. A. Garfield of Moorfield Storey of Boston, H. A. Garfield of Cleveland, A. J. Beveridge of Indianapolis, and Henry W. Rogers, President of the Northwestern University. The session will be held to-morrow and Saturday. Among the topics to be discussed are: "The Future Colonial Policy of the United States," "The Nicaragua Canal," International Arbitration" and "The Abolition of Prize Money Payments." S. A. Bobinson of New York, Treasurer of the conference, said to-night that the discussions are to be purely educational, and there is no intention to dictate policies.

tate policies.

"Some have misunderstood the object of the conference," he added, "and regarded it as advocating anti-imperialism. We believe simply that public opinion should be properly educated to grasp the gigantic problems growing out of the war with Spain, and hope that the conference will have a wholesome effect in shaping it.

It is probable that either Joseph H. Choate or ex-Gov. Flower will preside at the conference.

merce Over the New Cable. The New York Chamber of Commerce has received from Georges Maison, President of the Chamber of Commerce of Paris, this despatch upon the opening on Wednesday of the new cable between Cape Cod and Havre:

FRIENDLY WORDS FROM FRANCE.

"Chamber of Commerce of Paris salutes the Chamber of Commerce of New York through the French cable opened to-day. We rejoice ecause of these new direct relations. The affirm the hundred years of always profound friendship which exists between our countries and will moreover facilitate our economic rela-

"Chamber of Commerce of New York cor dially reciprocates your welcome salutations and good wishes upon the opening of a new direct cable between your and our own country, and it hopes that this and the friendly interest so recently shown by France in aiding the rostoration of peace will tend to still further cement the friendship existing between our countries." our countries."

A despatch was also received from the Chamber of Commerce of Havre,

DEMAND FOR SMALL NOTES.

Treasurer Roberts Says \$300,000 Worth Is

Being Turned Out Every Day. WASHINGTON, Aug. 18 .- Mr. Roberts, Treasurer of the United States, said to-day that the reported scarcity of small notes at New York was not unexpected to him. In fact it had been anticipated by the department and orders had been issued some time ago to print no notes of a larger denomination than \$20. Three hundred thousand dollars' worth of these small notes was being turned out every day, but even this was insufficient to supply the demand. The great call for small notes, he thought, was due to business activity, together with the operations of the rule of the Treasury which permitted their transportation at a low rate when exchanged for gold. There would be a greater demand, he thought, when the movement of crops began. The people must soon accustom themselves to the every-day use of gold, for the stock of that coin was continually increasing, and the time was not far distant when it would have to be paid out. There was \$100,000,000 of free gold in the Treasury to-day, in addition to a like amount of gold reserve, while the other cash items making up the available cash balance footed up \$72,000,000 only. notes was being turned out every day, but eve

BROOKLYN & NEW YORK FERRY SALE. B. B. Hollins & Co.'s Terms Formally Ac-

cepted by the Stockholders. At a meeting of the stockholders of the Brook lyn and New York Ferry Company at the office of Joseph J. O'Donohue, 101 Front street, yesterday, the sale of the securities of the company to the banking firm of H. B. Hollins & Co. was formally approved by a unanimous vote of

was formally approved by a unanimous vote of the 19,516 shares represented out of a total of 20,000 shares. The price paid for the stock is \$300 a share. The bonds of the company have also been acquired by the firm.

The Brooklyn Ferry Company has been incorporated with a capital of \$7,500,000 to succeed the Brooklyn and New York Ferry Company. It will issue \$7,590,000 5 per cent gold bonds, keeping enough of them in the treasury to retire \$1,500,000 bonds of the old company when they become due. Of the authorized stock \$4,000,000 is to be issued.

Officers of the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F. ALBANY, Aug. 18.-The Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., of the State, which has been in session in this city for the past three days, has elected

these officers: Grand Master, Franklin P. Trautmann of Nev York: Deputy Grand Master, Henry V. Borst of Amsterdam; Grand Warden, August F. Freeh of New York: Grand Secretary, John G. Deu-bert; Grand Treasurer, John F. Bullenkamp of Brooklyn; Grand Representative, George W. Dilks of New York. The Grand Lodge meets in New York city next year. next year.

Missionaries for the Philippines, Hawaii, Cuba and Porto Rico.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Aug. 18 .- After an enthusiastic discussion this afternoon, in which many of the 400 delegates to the General Baptist Association of Kentucky took part, favorable action was taken on the proposition to send missionaries to the Philippines, Cuba, Porto Rico and the Hawaiian Islands.

To Contest a College Bequest. ANN ARBOR, Mich., Aug. 18.-Dr. Elizabeth H Bates died at her home at Port Chester, N. Y., a few months ago, leaving the University Michigan an estate valued at \$125,000 for the establishment of a chair for diseases of women and children. The second cousins of Dr. Bates have filed a notice that they will contest the will. The Board of Regents will defend the bequest

Steel Billets Advance in Price. PITTSBURG, Aug. 18.-Another advance has been reported in structural iron and steel Billets in last week's quoted at \$15.50, a jump of 25 cents a ton. This week they are quoted at \$15.75 per ton and are scarce at that. This is the best price that has been recorded alnos the days of the strong billet pool, two years ago.

SHOOKED AROUT BARSOFTE An Italian Newspaper's Remonstrate dressed to Mayor Van Wyck.

When Mayor Van Wyek made out his first ist of 100 citizens for a committee to w Admiral Sampson's squadron his patriotic haste led him to save time by using the list prepared for the deceased charter day celebration. On that list were the names of some who have since moved out of New York and of others who have left this world altogether. Among those who have moved away is Charles Barsotti. Mr. Barsotti has moved up the Hudson

at the invitation of the State authorities The Italian newspaper Bollettino Della Sera took pains vesterday afternoon to explain the matter to his Honor. All the rest of the newspaper was printed in Italian, but this part was in English so that the Mayor would not need the services of an interpreter. It was headed " An Affront to the Italians and a Scorn for the Americans," and said:

Do you not know Charles Barsotti and his

deeds?

"As a banker, in March, 1807, he fraudulently falled of \$100,000 after having attracted his patrons by gilt-edge promises and by artful misrepresentations.

"He has been arrested several times, and if at the present moment, while receiving the honor from you, is not among the criminals of Sing Sing, it is for one of those inexplicable prodigies of justice that are not so easily explained.

Sing Sing, it is for one of those inexplicable prodigies of justice that are not so easily explained.

"He's despised by all because he fell ignominiously at the bottom of the social ladder, and you have, honorable sir, nominated him to fill such an exaited position! You could have selected among so many respectable Italians one that would have reflected honor upon you and his countrymen. By having selected Barsotil you have injured the feeling of all the Italians, and have casted shame on the city that you are the executive chief, consequently you gave a hard blow to the respect that we all professed for your personality.

"The presence of Barsotti at Saturday's festival is shameful and obscene, and will certainly be a siur in the patriotic festivities."

It is worthy of note that Mr. Barsotti is not numbered among those named by the Mayor yesterday for the sub-committee of seventy-five.

BIG THREAD COMBINE

A Report That Anglo-American Interests Are to Be United.

CHICAGO, Aug. 18.-It is reported here that the big cotton thread concerns of the country are about to form a combination capitalized at \$18,000,000, to include practically all the the thread output of America. A decrease in the price of thread probably will result. The new concern, according to the statements nade, is to be an Anglo-American affair, with a large part of its capital held by the English thread combine or by its representatives. By working in harmony with the English interest it will bring practically all the cotton thread output of both countries under one control.

The Willimantic Linen Company, the Warren Thread Company, the Merrick Thread Company, the Kerr Thread Company and King & Co. are named as the principal concern & Co, are named as the principal concerns about to be absorbed by the American Thread Company, as the new company is called. All of them are in the seaboard States and employ in the aggregate millons of dollars of capital. The new company's capital of \$18,000,000 is divided into \$6,000,000 of 4 per cent. debenture bonds, \$6,000,000 of 6 per cent. preference stock, and \$6,000,000 in ordinary shares. In London it is given out that the American manufacturers will take \$8,000,000 of the capital in part payment for their business. The English Sewing Cotton Company, a combine of English makers, working with the Coateses and probably ruled by the latter, will take \$4,000,000 of the securities and the general public can take the rest, half in the 4 per cent, debentures and half in preference stock. It is understood that little if any subscription outside the stock allotted the manufacturers is to be sought in this country. scription outside the speck another the man-ufacturers is to be sought in this country. Considerable delay has been experienced it overcoming difficulties created by the trust laws of the States in which the plants are situ-ated, but these are said to be out of the wan finally and the prospectus nearly ready for sublication.

PRENCH ARTIST DIES SUDDENLY. His Death Predicted in Joke by a Friend s

Emile Vallet, a French artist, died suddenly resterday of heart disease on the steps of the louse at 95 Fifth avenue. Vallet, who was 55 years old, came to this country twenty years ago with Alphonse Fauge, who keeps a wine shop at 20 West Eighteenth street. The two nen remained fast friends, and Vallet spent all his spare time in the wineshop with Fauge. some of Vallet's paintings attracted attention and sold well. He opened a studio at Twenty. sixth street and Sixth avenue and met with

success for several seasons.

Then his wife, who always wanted to go back to Paris, pined away and died. From that time Vallet began to experience hard luck, and found it more and more difficult to find a market for his landscapes.

his landscapes.

A week ago yesterday while Vallet was sipping wine in the little shop at 20 West Eighteenth street with his friend Fauge, as they clinked glasses Fauge said jokingly:

"I have a premonition, mon ami, that you will die within a week."

Vallet laughed good-humoredly and drained his glass. Fauge was horrified yesterday when he learned that his joking prophecy had proved true. The dead man kept his address concealed from his friends, and not even Fauge knew where he lived. It is said he left several paintings which are stowed away in his room. is friend Fauge is going to make a search for

SCHOOL BOOK WAR IN ATLANTA. Hoke Smith and Ex-Senator Gordon in

Clash Over Geographies. ATLANTA, Aug. 18,-Political and educational circles are somewhat agitated just now over differences which exist between Hoke Smith. ex-Secretary of the Interior, and ex-Senator John B. Gordon. The trouble grew directly out of the question of the adoption of geographic in the public schools in this city. Mr. Smith is rigorously pushing a work by Frye issued by a Boston concern, and in his capacity as Presi dent of the local Board of Education succeeded in having it supplant Maury's, which has been in having it supplant Maury's, which has been the text book here for years. Gen. Gordon, who knew Lieut. Maury intimately, has taken up the war in favor of the latter's book.

The affair is the more surprising from the fact that for some time Gen. Gordon and Mr. Smith were the strongest political allies and friends, the ex-Secretary's brother having married the General's daughter. But since the elevation of Mr. Smith to his present position as President of the Board, things have changed. The prevailing opinion here is that Maury's geography will win out.

NAMED FOR DEWEY.

Launch of the First of a Fleet of Four Fruiters at Cramp's Shipyard. PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 18.—The first of four

ruiting steamers built for the American Mail Steamship Company of New York was launched at the Cramp shippard this afternoon at 2 o'clock. She was named the Admiral Dewey There was a large attendance of invited guests There was a large attendance of invited guests at the launching ceremony from Boston. New York and Philadelphia. The new vessel is 300 feet long, with a carrying capacity of 2,000 tons. The four vessels, of which this is the first to be completed, are the first vessels constructed in the United States for the West India fruit trade. They will be operated under a percetual charter to the Quaker City Fruit Company of this city, which now has five steamers plying between this port and the West Indies in the fruit trade. The second vessel will be launched in October.

The Disuse of Horses and the Hay Trade. From the American Agriculturist,

At the meeting of the National Hay Association at Sufficio Aug. 9, Mr. Cyrus Bates of Boston asserted that the displacement of horses by electricity and his consistence of the second of the con-bicycles has not materially decreased the con-sumption of hay, as many think. For the future he thinks there is encouragement, as the low cost of hay has caused its much freer use. J. H. Clendennin of Baltimore, however, spoke of a decrease in the consumption nay, caused by the displacement of horses. He esti-mated that horses have been displaced in our leading cities as follows: Philadelphia 50,000, Chicago 50,000 to 75,000, Greater New York 40,000, Balti-more 25,000, St. Leuis 10,000, Cincinnati 10,000, Richmond, Va., 15,030, Toledo, O., 15,000, Alloy ing that each workhorse requires fifteen pounds of hay per day, the displacement of the above number marks a decrease in consumption of over 1,300 tons per day. Add to this the horses displaced in other ities and you will understand, he said, why the hay trade is not as active as it was a few years ago

Silver Still the Democratic Light. From the Atlanta Constitution. Bilver is the overrhadowing feature of the Demo The Rensen is That Quebes Has Interfered | | with Their Beaver Catch. MONTREAL, Aug. 18 .- A Montreal party which nas fust returned from Labrador reports that there has been great distress among the Indians in the Grand Lac and Abitibi districts. One woman starved to death, and her husband, who was discovered in his camp by a band of Indians, was on the verge of death and was with difficulty resuscitated. The principal cause of this distress is said to be the regulations of the Quebec Government forbidding the

sale of beaver skins, thus depriving the Indian of his best source of revenue. The distress has been intensified by the great scarcity of of his best source of revenue. The distress has been intensified by the great scarcity of rabbits all over the country. The rabbits distoff about every seven years, and the natural increase takes from three to four years.

The law forbiding the trade in beaver skins works exastly contrary to the intention of the Government. Before this law was in force the Indian when he killed a beaver at the flesh, and with the skin purchased flour, which kept his family for a month. Now he has to kill a beaver every day to keep his family alive on the flesh, and he simply changes his method of sooking. He sinces off the hair, and cooks and eats the animal. Had the indians been permitted to protect their beaver lands from the inroads of the white trappers, it is alleged there would be no need of legislation at the present tree.

Where there are no white trappers the beavers are as identiful as they were fifty years are. The Indians farm them the same as cattle, and know exactly how many to kill. They thereby retain enough to keep up the stock. They understand how to set their traps in the water in such a manner that the young beavers pass over them without being caught. When the beavers are cornered under the lee they are hauled out by hand, and only the old ones are killed. The smaller or younger ones are left go again for breeding purposes.

The distress is terrible. Many families have arrived at the Hudson Bay post in a familshed condition. Next year there will be no rabbits at all in the district, and unless something is done prompily to assist these unfortunate Indians they must starve.

CUSTOMS APPRAISERS DISAGREE. Treasury Orders an Appeal in the Case of

Collector Bidwell received instructions yes terday from W. B. Howell, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, to take an appeal from the appraisement of laces and embroideries from Bt. Gall, Switzerland, recently rendered by General Appraiser Sharretts. The case involves goods worth several hundred thousands of dollars which have been held in store for several months pending a final decision. It has become an international matter, as the Swiss Minister at Washington has entered a formal protest against the goods being held up

some of the invoice prices as much as 115 per cent., rendering the goods subject to seizure for undervaluation. On appeal General Appraiser Sharrette reduced the advances to but 4% per cent. His appraisement has been in the hands of Collector Bidwell for some days, the hands of Collector Bidwell for some days, and it is understood the Collector was disposed to coincide with him. The instructions from Assistant Secretary. Howell, however, necessitate an appeal to a board of three General Appraisers. Collector Bidwell will take an appeal from another appraisement by General Appraisers. Harretts, this being the case of Bonner, Grinberg, Rich & Co., jewellers of 54 Maiden lane. The firm imported diamonds and other precious stones, 120 items in all. Twenty of the items were advanced by Appraiser Wakeman more that 50 per cent., rendering the whole invoice, estimated as worth \$125,000, subject to seizure. On appeal of the importers, Mr. Sharretts appraised the twenty items below the advances made by the Appraiser.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: As a Hebrew I esire to call the attention of the public through the columns of THE SUN to the prominent part our see has taken in the war just closing; this I will do for the general good, and not from any feeling of egotism or to disparage any other race or sect, but as there has always existed a feeling or idea that the Jew's instincts were entirely commercial. I take this when patriotism was called for.

Col. Roosevelt, in his remarks about his troops, says "all fought well, and I have recommended for promotion one Jew, one Catholic, and two Protesants." In THE SUN's list of sick and wounded at Santiago published about a fortnight ago Hebrew names were plenty, in fact, if my memory serves me, there when all the attendant circumstances are considered that is to say, the great disparity in the total number f our race now in this country as compared to the

Christians. Again, young Arnold Giesemann, who died last reek in Santiago, was a Hebrew, and a fair type of the youthful Jewish patriot. He was under and not

over 18, as stated in to-day's Sun. Hebrews all over the land were ready and eager to enlist in the defence of their land, and I earnestly hope that their brothers in arms will bear witness to their bravery, and that the mist of ignorant prejudice now gradually being lifted will be still further dispelled by the events of the past five months. Truly all men are brothers. Jacon N. SHULTHOFF,

Call to the Police of Mott Avenue. To the Editor of The Bun-Sir: You would be a enferring a great favor on quite a number of residu dents and property owners along the line of Mots avenue, in the borough of the Bronx, New York city, if by publishing this letter you would be the means of Thirty-seventh precincts from their present inactivity to at least a semblance of the performance of

their duty. People residing on Mott avenue have either of three streets to pass through, in order to reach their homes, viz., 188th, 144th, and 149th streets, they being the only streets that are not cut off by the Harlem Railroad. To those of them who reside Harlem Bailroad. To those of them who reside below 144th street, 138th street is the nearest approach to their homes, but to those of them who reside above that street 149th street is the nearest approach to their homes, and in passing through that street 149th street is the nearest approach to their homes, and in passing through that street after 6:30 or 7 o'clock in the evening of week days and all day on Sundays it is necessary when passing between Cortlandt and Morris avenues, in that street, for pedestrians to walk in the streets, so crowded are the adorwales by the Italians resident in said street. The Italians will not make room for pedestrians, and as a matter of fact they will not move even when the policeman comes along.

Women in passing through that street in the nightime are hooted at and insulted by the younger Italian element.

Things have come to such a pass that it is almost impossible for owners of real estate along Mott and Walton avenues to rent their premises, whereas five or six years ago it was almost impossible to find a vacant house.

It is almost impossible to sell real estate at its fair value, and it is all due to the fact that people ame afraid or don't care to pass through is this rest.

A Tarparra of the Bosough of the Books.

New Yore, Aug. 17.

Wrong-Colored Letter Box.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : For an admirably managed railway company, the New York, New Haven and Hartford makes a singular blunder in the colors of the two letter boxes on either side of the old train exit on Forty-second street, between the waiting room and the baggage room. The box for Boston letters is painted red, and the box for New York city letters is painted green. As the Boston box is of precisely the same hue as the thousands of mail loxes throughout the city, for letters and newspapers, of many shapes, sizes, and positions, and of various patterns and patents, it is the most natural thing in the world for a person in a hurry—and an American is usually in a hurry at a railway station—to make straight for the familiar red box and shoot a letter into it, without noticing the dull emboased sign on the front until the little lid has clanked over the mouth which has awallowed his missive.

As to the planne warming to the unwary on the side of the bra, no one would ever see it unless he has leisure to lotter and scan unconsidered trides white wating for a train to come in.

Would it not be an act of wisdom, to say nothing of horse sense, for the company to transpose these complimentary colors—to nake the New York box the friculty, if unsteful, red, and to devote the grand, gloomy and peculiar green, or rather the common or Public Gardens green, to the snecial Bostonian receptacle?

Maymuny Fleming. thing in the world for a person in a hurry-and an

Hold the Philippines.

New York, Aug. 17.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUS-Sir: Let our Government hold on to every island in the Pacific that Spain has so badly governed for so many years.

The United States are strong enough to take good care of all of them. How can the American people now allow Spain to continue its oppression upon any of the Philippines? Hold them! H. N. F. BANGOR, Me., Aug. 16.

Stop Dawey!

TO THE ROITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: If that peace pressage to Admiral Dewey fails to reach him soon he may take a notion to settle the trouble between Pagland and Rusta by taking China. The Admiral has a way of conquering without loss of life or ship, and the holeting of the Stars and Stripes over new countries seems to be another of his idopmeranes. New York, Aug. 17.

Chantes W. Paice.

Defeat of the Auti-Profaulty Ordinance. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUR-Sir: Well, I'll be

MADISON SQUARE.